

RANGER IN THE BANKHEAD NATIONAL FOREST RETIRING

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James Ramey, District Ranger, Bankhead National Forest, Bankhead Ranger District, National Forests in Alabama.

Mr. Ramey has worked 34 years caring for the land and serving the public. He started his journey while attending school at Oklahoma State University, earning a degree in forestry while working on the Ouachita National Forest, Poteau Ranger District in 1965 and will end this journey on June 3, 1999. He served three years in the U.S. Army, earned the rank of 1st Lieutenant and served one year in Vietnam.

In April 1986, Mr. Ramey began working on the Bankhead National Forest as the District Ranger. During this time period he achieved a number of important accomplishments such as the success of using \$700,000 provided by former Congressman Beville to build a horse trail, multiple-use trail and hiking trail. He helped to manage stream side management zone practices that led to the protection of mussels and other aquatic species; he was instrumental in the design and layout of Clear Creek and Corinth Recreation Areas and also in trying to help operate additional recreational facilities during a time of increased use and decreased budgets. In April 1991, his leadership efforts led to the Bankhead Ranger District being recognized by the Southern Region of the National Forest Service as the best unit within the southeast.

As someone who grew up around the forest, I know how much his efforts have been appreciated and how he will be missed by everyone who cares about the Bankhead National Forest. I extend to Mr. Ramey, his wife Zondra, and his family best wishes for a job well done and hope he will have many years ahead to enjoy a well deserved retirement.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, this week America is celebrating the work of some of our finest citizens. This is National Hospital Week and I would like to express my gratitude to those whose daily job it is to save lives.

Seventy-seven years ago, National Hospital Week began as a way to honor our hospitals and the dedicated staff who save lives and keep our hospitals functioning. This week we extend our gratitude and thanks to the thousands of Americans nationwide whose job it is to care.

America's hospitals and their staffs work tirelessly to serve the communities in which they are based. Many of these dedicated men and women are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, caring for one and all.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the many men and women of our nation's hospitals. Their devo-

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tion is what keeps America strong and healthy.

IN MEMORIAM OF JOSEPH F. SMITH, FORMER MEMBER OF CONGRESS

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, it is with a deep sense of loss that I rise today to inform the House of the passing of former Member of Congress Joseph Smith. The people of Philadelphia will sorely miss this great statesman who understood and related to his fellow citizens so well.

Born and raised in St. Anne's Parish, Philadelphia, Joe Smith remained supremely dedicated to serving his constituents; he was a man devoted to his roots. He started his career of service to this Nation as a sergeant in the United States Army, receiving a Purple Heart for his actions during World War II, and then as an assistant to U.S. Congressman James A. Byrne of Pennsylvania. He eventually served in the Pennsylvania State Senate from 1970 to 1981, and was elected to the Ninety-seventh Congress in 1981. Joe also worked at the forefront of the Democratic party as the Democratic City chairman in Philadelphia from 1983 to 1986.

Throughout his career the people of Philadelphia looked to him for leadership, and he immersed himself in understanding their needs. Joe understood that public service is most effective when one understands and closely reflects the convictions and beliefs of one's constituents. No matter what body he was serving in, his heart was always with Fishtown and the people who resided in its communities. After his retirement, Joe could still be found sharing wisdom and insight from his stoop to those who sought advice and kinship.

I am deeply saddened at the loss of an outstanding legislator, a great human being, and a distinguished American. My deepest sympathies are extended to his wife Regina, his daughter Gi and her family. He left a special mark on me, and I deeply mourn his passing. Joe will be profoundly missed.

THE WORKING UNINSURED TAX EQUITY ACT

HON. JAMES E. ROGAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. ROGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of important legislation my colleague Congressman JIM McDERMOTT and I introduced today, the Working Uninsured Tax Equity Act. Many of the estimated 43 million Americans without health insurance are employed. The current Tax Code, however, discriminates against those workers if they choose to buy health insurance on their own.

Currently, employees with employer-sponsored health benefits enjoy those benefits tax

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free. This simple, straightforward proposal seeks to equalize the tax treatment between workers whose employer covers the cost of health care insurance premiums and those workers who must pay for their health insurance entirely from their own paychecks. The Tax Code should not punish these employees because their employer does not offer health benefits.

Our bill provides those workers paying for the entire cost of their health insurance a 30-percent partially refundable income tax credit to help defray the cost of those insurance premiums. The 30-percent credit approximately equals the tax benefit enjoyed by workers with employer-provided tax benefits. The credit would be available to individuals with incomes to \$30,000 and married couples, filing jointly with incomes to \$50,000.

Our bill will not solve the crisis associated with the number of Americans who do not have health insurance. It does, however, provide a starting point for liberals and conservatives, state governments, insurance companies, and others to begin addressing health policy issues relating to uninsured Americans.

I encourage our colleagues from both sides of the aisle to join us in supporting the Working Uninsured Tax Equity Act.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1555) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2000 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Chairman, I rise to strike the last word. I rise in support of the gentlewoman of California's amendment to H.R. 1555. This Amendment prohibits the CIA and other intelligence agencies from participating in the manufacture, purchase, sale, transport, or distribution of illegal drugs. Let us not forget the history of the CIA and the suggestion that they have been involved in this behavior in the past. We must take action to rid the CIA and other intelligence agencies of any suggestion or taint of wrong doing and address the primary issue of drugs in America.

Drugs, in America, take a huge toll year in and year out. They move like a thief in the night and steal our children, our fathers, our mothers, and destroy families and lives. This problem plays itself out every day in my Congressional District. I walk the streets of Chicago's Westside and see the devastation and destruction that drugs leave in their wake. I see children with no parents and parents who mourn the loss of their children, all too soon, and no one can forget a visit to Cook County Hospital and seeing the torturous pain of seeing a baby born addicted to drugs. With these

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images burning in my mind, I know we must do everything in our power to rectify this situation.

In the past week, the media has reported the deaths of two celebrities from drugs, one of whom was a professional athlete in the prime of his life using drugs for the first time. These recent examples illustrate the deadly effect these nefarious substances have on people. We must understand no one is safe from this problem, this national problem.

My support of this amendment means that we must be clear in our image and the messages that we send by stating the manufacture, sale, transport, or distribution of illegal drugs is unacceptable at any level of the government. All law enforcement and defense must adhere to certain simple principles. The CIA and NSA (National Security Agency) are no different from the Chicago Police Department or the Illinois State Police or the U.S. Marshals. All must understand that the trafficking of drugs is not acceptable, we must restore faith and confidence in America's enforcement branches, and if intelligence agencies engage in such behavior they must understand the consequences of this behavior.

I can think of no better way to restore our confidence in the CIA and NSA than by supporting this amendment. It expresses, in clear and concise terms, what we, as representatives of the people, believe is right. That no intelligence agency shall, under any circumstances, engage in any behavior that facilitates the traffic of drugs.

TRIBUTE TO BOB BUSH

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to briefly say a few words in honor of Bob Bush—a man whose contributions to the Green Bay community over the past five decades have been enormous.

After 53 years with Schreiber Foods, my friend Bob Bush is finally stepping down as Chairman of the Board. During his time at Schreiber, Bob has built not only a great company, but a great team of 3,600 employees.

As one man, Bob Bush has done plenty to improve the quality of life in northeastern Wisconsin. But as a leader, Bob Bush has done even more. Bob serves as a shining example for the rest of us—someone who has been successful not only in his profession, but in his community life. The example he has set ensures that his long legacy of giving something back to the community will be carried on through the generations of people he has touched.

Bob's service and achievements are almost too numerous to be able to list here, but I'll try to provide a few highlights . . .

He's served as an officer, director, president, CEO and chairman of Schreiber Foods.

He's served on or chaired the boards of the Green Bay Packers, Firstar Bank, YMCA, Junior Achievement, United Way, National Cheese Institute, Marine Bank, St. Norbert College and many, many others.

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He's served on the Allouez School Board and the Green Bay Water Commission.

And he and his wife Carol have given us four Bush children and fourteen grandchildren—all of whom are poised to continue his special legacy into the next millennium.

Bob, of course, managed all this in his "free time" while running one of the most successful companies in our area—think about all he'll be able to do now that he's retiring.

So, on behalf of all the people whose lives have been touched by Bob Bush, I'd like to say "thanks, Bob"—for all you've done and for all you'll do during this well-deserved retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAY AS NATIONAL TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address a subject I feel very passionate about; teen pregnancy prevention. When my colleague the gentle lady from North Carolina, Ms. CLAYTON called my office about participating in an effort to speak on this critically important topic I jumped at the opportunity.

As a member of the House Advisory Panel to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy I feel a strong responsibility to address this national problem. In dealing with the problem of teen pregnancy in the United States, it has always been my philosophy that we must deal with both the young women and the young men in these relationships. I realize that reproductive technology has gone far, but I believe we will need both women and men to make children. Many programs deal primarily with the young women and their children and do not emphasize the responsibility that young men should be taking in these relationships. We should focus on both parties in dealing with the problem of unplanned teen pregnancies.

We need to develop comprehensive plans to deal with this issue, plans, which include both young women and men in the solution of the problem. There also needs to be in place not only comprehensive programs, but we in Washington need to allocate the necessary monies for these programs to be successful. We know prevention programs work, and we need to continue to support them in their mission. The resources and programs should also be focused on areas, which have the highest rates of teen pregnancy.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues from both sides of the aisle please join me in recognizing the month of May as "Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month" and let's join together to fight this national problem.

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25TH ANNIVERSARY OF JOHN G. WOOD SCHOOL AT VIRGINIA HOME FOR BOYS

HON. TOM BLILEY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate and honor Virginia Home for Boys' John G. Wood School on their 25th anniversary of service to Virginia's youth. I am personally involved with the Virginia Home for Boys. My father proudly served on their Board of Governors for fifty years, and I have served on the Board of Governors since 1996.

The John G. Wood School is a private special education school designed to help students who are having some difficulties in public school. Many of their students are frustrated with school and lack self-esteem and motivation. The John G. Wood School reaches out to those students through staff involvement and counseling to provide them with an opportunity to experience a constructive and meaningful education.

This school is based on the idea that these students can best succeed in a school environment where there is concern for the total individual. The faculty of the John G. Wood School believes that every student can be a success and tries to give these students every tool possible to help them reach their goals.

As it is apparent from the recent tragedy in Colorado that shocked our nation, meeting the education needs of today's children is becoming more and more difficult. The state of Virginia is fortunate to have the John G. Wood School to offer a place for students who otherwise would get lost in the system.

I congratulate the John G. Wood School, the staff, and all the students who were fortunate enough to attend this school. I wish the school and the Virginia Home for Boys much success in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO THE GARZA FAMILY

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 14, 1999

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Garza family as they gather to hold their twenty-sixth family reunion. On June 12, 1999, the Garza family will convene in Katy, TX, to recognize outstanding family members, including those who have proudly served in the United States Armed Forces. The Garza family has entitled their reunion, "A Century of Pride and Honor."

As the Garza family gathers to recognize the service of its family members, it also will celebrate several qualities responsible for the family's success. Members of the Garza family strive to remain loyal to their heritage. Each individual hopes to make lasting contributions which will strengthen the family foundation. For the Garza family, instilling qualities such as bravery, loyalty, and service is essential to help ensure that future generations are prepared for their roles as our Nation's leaders.